

REMARKS

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 4, 5, and 8-14 under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 7,036,091 to Nguyen ("*Nguyen*") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,628,304 to Mitchell et al. ("*Mitchell*"), U.S. Patent No 6,819,344 to Robbins ("*Robbins*"), U.S. Patent No. 5,745,717 to Vayda et al. ("*Vayda*"), and U.S. Patent No. 5,317,687 to Torres ("*Torres*").

By this amendment, Applicants propose to amend claims 1 and 5. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1, 4, 5, and 8-14 will be pending.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1, 4, 5, and 8-14 under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Nguyen* in view of *Mitchell*, *Robbins*, *Vayda*, and *Torres*.

Independent claim 1 recites a method for displaying an electronic equipment input state on a menu screen, including, "displaying . . . a first ring on a picture screen and primary icons at predetermined intervals on the first ring," "adding secondary icons . . . at predetermined intervals on the second ring," and "reducing a size of the primary icons after adding the secondary icons." Combinations of *Nguyen*, *Mitchell*, *Robbins*, *Vayda*, and *Torres* fail to teach or suggest the claimed "reducing a size."

With respect to Figure 5, *Nguyen* discloses first menu 420 with selectable options 424. *Nguyen*, col. 7, lines 49-55. By selecting one of selectable options 424 on first menu 420, a second menu 520 can be displayed. *Id.* at col. 8, lines 55-58. However, *Nguyen* does not teach or suggest "reducing a size of the primary icons after adding the secondary icons," as recited in claim 1, at least because first menu 420 is unchanged after second menu 520 is displayed.

Mitchell fails to cure the deficiencies of *Nguyen*. With respect to Figure 3, *Mitchell* discloses a display with top node 205 and child nodes 211 - 217. Figure 4 shows the display zoomed to child node 211, and showing sub-child nodes 211-A through 211-G. The zoomed display of Figure 4 also shows top node 205 larger than in the display of Figure 3.

However, *Mitchell* does not teach or suggest “reducing a size of the primary icons after adding the secondary icons,” as recited in claim 1 (emphasis added). Instead, *Mitchell*’s top node is shown as larger when sub-child nodes 211-A through 211-G are shown in Figure 4.

Robbins, *Vayda*, and *Torres* fail to cure the deficiencies of *Nguyen* and *Mitchell* by also failing to teach or suggest “reducing a size of the primary icons after adding the secondary icons,” as recited in claim 1.

Accordingly, combinations of *Nguyen*, *Mitchell*, *Robbins*, *Vayda*, and *Torres* fail to teach or suggest claim 1. Independent claim 5, while of different scope than claim 1, distinguishes over *Nguyen*, *Mitchell*, *Robbins*, *Vayda*, and *Torres* for reasons similar to claim 1. Claims 4 and 8-14 distinguish over *Nguyen*, *Mitchell*, *Robbins*, *Vayda*, and *Torres* at least due to their dependence from one of independent claims 1 or 5.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, placing the claims in condition for allowance. This Amendment should allow for immediate action by the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the amended claims are neither anticipated nor rendered obvious in view of the applied references. Applicants therefore

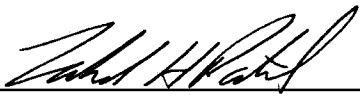
request the entry of this Amendment, the Examiner's reconsideration of the application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: October 15, 2009

By: 
Fahd Hussein Patel
Reg. No. 61,780
(202) 408-6072